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1. An image display device, comprising:
 - a pixel array constituted by a plurality of pixels for displaying an image;
 - a data signal line drive circuit for supplying a video signal to the pixel array;
 - a scan signal line drive circuit for controlling writing of the video signal to the plurality of pixels;
 - a timing circuit for supplying a timing signal to the data signal line drive circuit and the scan signal line drive circuit; and
 - a video signal processing circuit for supplying the video signal to the data signal line drive circuit,wherein:
 - a part or entirety of either or both of the data signal line drive circuit and the scan signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality so as to realize mutually different display configurations.
2. The image display device as defined in claim 1, wherein:
 - only one of the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) operates at any given time.

3. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:
the same part(s) and entirety(ies) of the drive
circuit(s) is(are) driven throughout one or more frame
periods.
4. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:
two or more of the parts and entireties of the drive
circuit(s) are switchably driven in one frame period.
5. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:
at least two of the parts and entireties of the
drive circuit(s) write image data in respective areas on
a screen.
6. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:
a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and
at least two of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit write image data in one partial
or whole area on a screen in one frame period.

7. The image display device as defined in claim 6,
wherein:
the at least two of the parts and entireties of the
data signal line drive circuit operate simultaneously.
8. The image display device as defined in claim 6,
wherein:
at least one of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit writes image data overlapping
an image written by another part or entirety of the data
signal line drive circuit in one frame period.
9. The image display device as defined in claim 8,
wherein:
at least one of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit writes an image overlapping
another image throughout one or more entire horizontal
scan periods.
10. The image display device as defined in claim 8,
wherein:
at least one of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit writes an image overlapping
another image only in a part of one or more entire
horizontal scan periods.

11. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit writes image data in a blanking
period of each horizontal scan period.

12. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data
signal line drive circuit writes image data with a
predetermined delay from another part or entirety of the
data signal line drive circuit.

13. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) are
located opposing one another across the pixel array.

14. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) are

located on one side of the pixel array.

15. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s)
share a common circuit.

16. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

an externally inputted signal controls which of the
parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) will be
driven.

17. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

one of the mutually different display configurations
is selected according to a kind of input display data.

18. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

one of the mutually different display configurations
is selected according to an environmental condition.

19. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

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20. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

21. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

22. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

23. The image display device as defined in claim 1,

~~display configuration switching means for switching the display configurations according to a signal from the detection means.~~

display configuration switching means for switching the display configurations according to a signal from the video kind identification means.

~~each of the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) has its own power supply terminal and input terminal.~~

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s)
share a partially common power supply terminal and input

27. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

28. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
further comprising:

29. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

30. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

one of a plurality of display formats as the mutually different display configurations consumes relatively little power, whilst the other consumes a

31. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

32. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

33. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

34. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

35. The image display device as defined in claim 31,

~~a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and~~

36. The image display device as defined in claim 32,

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

37. The image display device as defined in claim 33,

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

38. The image display device as defined in claim 34,

wherein:

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to a plurality of data signal lines.

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

40. The image display device as defined in claim 32,
wherein:

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to data signal lines corresponding to some of the plurality of pixels of the same color, those some pixels being

horizontally adjacent to each other with or without an intervening pixel of a different color.

41. The image display device as defined in claim 33,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to data signal lines corresponding to some of the plurality of pixels of the same color, those some pixels being horizontally adjacent to each other with or without an intervening pixel of a different color.

42. The image display device as defined in claim 34,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to data signal lines corresponding to some of the plurality of pixels of the same color, those some pixels being horizontally adjacent to each other with or without an intervening pixel of a different color.

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to data signal lines corresponding to some of the plurality of pixels, those some pixels being horizontally adjacent to each other and of three different colors.

at least one of the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit writes identical image data to data signal lines corresponding to some of the plurality of pixels, those some pixels being horizontally adjacent to each other and of three different colors.

a scan signal is written to \ a plurality of

successive scan signal lines at an identical timing; and
the data signal line drive circuit outputs image data which is held by data signal lines in each scan period.

46. The image display device as defined in claim 32,
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats of a relatively low resolution,

a scan signal is written to a plurality of successive scan signal lines at different timings; and

the data signal line drive circuit outputs image data which is held by data signal lines in each scan period.

47. The image display device as defined in claim 31,
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats of a relatively low resolution,

a scan signal is written to a plurality of successive scan signal lines at different timings; and

the data signal line drive circuit outputs identical image data in each scan period.

48. The image display device as defined in claim 32,

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wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats
atively low resolution,
a scan signal is written to a pluralit
cessive scan signal lines at different timings;
the data signal line drive circuit outputs iden
ge data in each scan period.

The image display device as defined in claim
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats
atively low resolution,
a scan signal is written to a pluralit
cessive scan signal lines at different timings;
the data signal line drive circuit outputs
a which is held by data signal lines in a p
cluding a plurality of scan periods.

The image display device as defined in claim
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats
atively low resolution,
a scan signal is written to a pluralit
cessive scan signal lines at different timings;
the data signal line drive circuit outputs

the data signal line drive circuit outputs identical image data in each scan period.

the data signal line drive circuit outputs image data which is held by data signal lines in a period including a plurality of scan periods.

the data signal line drive circuit outputs image

data which is held by data signal lines in a period including a plurality of scan periods.

51. The image display device as defined in claim 31,
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats of a relatively low resolution,

a scan signal is written to a plurality of successive scan signal lines at different timings; and

the data signal line drive circuit outputs image data representing an identical halftone, but different polarities, in each scan period.

52. The image display device as defined in claim 32,
wherein:

in one of the plurality of display formats of a relatively low resolution,

a scan signal is written to a plurality of successive scan signal lines at different timings; and

the data signal line drive circuit outputs image data representing an identical halftone, but different polarities, in each scan period.

53. The image display device as defined in claim 31,
wherein:

~~Image data is written to data signal lines without changing a polarity thereof throughout one frame period.~~

in one of the plurality of display formats of a relatively low resolution,

55. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

56. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

57. The image display device as defined in claim 29,

wherein:

one of the plurality of display formats is compatible with a halftone display, whilst the other is compatible with a binary display.

58. The image display device as defined in claim 30,

wherein:

one of the plurality of display formats is compatible with a halftone display, whilst the other is compatible with a binary display.

59. The image display device as defined in claim 55,

wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and

the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit include a reference voltage selection circuit and an intermediate potential generation circuit,

wherein:

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the reference voltage selection circuit operates, but the intermediate potential generation circuit does not operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, both the reference voltage selection circuit and the

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intermediate potential generation circuit operate.

60. The image display device as defined in claim 56,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

the parts and entireties of the data signal line
drive circuit include a reference voltage selection
circuit and an intermediate potential generation circuit,

wherein:

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the
reference voltage selection circuit operates, but the
intermediate potential generation circuit does not
operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, both
the reference voltage selection circuit and the
intermediate potential generation circuit operate.

61. The image display device as defined in claim 57,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

the parts and entireties of the data signal line
drive circuit include a reference voltage selection
circuit and an intermediate potential generation circuit.

63. The image display device as defined in claim 55,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

the parts and entireties of the data signal line
drive circuit include an amplifier circuit,

wherein

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the
amplifier circuit does not operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, the
amplifier circuit operates.

64. The image display device as defined in claim 56,
wherein:

a part or entirety of the data signal line drive
circuit is provided in plurality; and

the parts and entireties of the data signal line
drive circuit include an amplifier circuit,

wherein

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the
amplifier circuit does not operate, and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, the
amplifier circuit operates.

65. The image display device as defined in claim 57,

~~a part or entirety of the data signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality; and~~

wherein

when relatively many halftones are displayed, the amplifier circuit operates.

wherein:

the parts and entireties of the data signal line drive circuit include an amplifier circuit,

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the amplifier circuit does not operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, the amplifier circuit operates.

wherein:

68. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

69. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

70. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

71. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

the input video signal carries natural image data in one of the plurality of display formats and graphics data in the other.

72. The image display device as defined in claim 30,
wherein:

the input video signal carries natural image data in
one of the plurality of display formats and graphics data
in the other.

73. The image display device as defined in claim 29,
wherein:

one of a plurality of display modes as the mutually
different display configurations is a transmission
display mode, whilst the other is a reflection display
mode.

74. The image display device as defined in claim 50,
wherein:

one of a plurality of display modes as the mutually
different display configurations is a transmission
display mode, whilst the other is a reflection display
mode.

75. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

none of the parts and entireties of the drive
circuit(s) writes image data in at least a part of a
display area.

none of the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) writes image data in a part of a display area by controlling outputs from the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) based on a signal that represents drive timings of the signal lines.

none of the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) writes image data in a part of a display area by controlling outputs from the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) based on a reset signal causing the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) to stop scanning.

none of the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) writes image data in a part of a display area by inputting a start signal from an intermediate stage of a scan circuit included in the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s), the start signal causing the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) to start scanning.

79. The image display device as defined in claim 1,
wherein:

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s) are
formed on the same substrate as are the pixels.

80. The image display device as defined in claim 79,
wherein:

the parts and entireties of the drive circuit(s)
include a polycrystalline silicon thin transistor as an
active element.

81. The image display device as defined in claim 80,
wherein:

the active element is formed on a glass substrate by
a process at or below 600 °C.

82. A data signal line drive circuit, comprising:

a reference voltage selection circuit; and
an intermediate potential generation circuit,
wherein:

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the
reference voltage selection circuit operates, but the
intermediate potential generation circuit does not
operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, both

the reference voltage selection circuit and the intermediate potential generation circuit operate.

83. The data signal line drive circuit as defined in claim 82, further comprising an amplifier circuit,

wherein:

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the amplifier circuit does not operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, the amplifier circuit operates.

84. An image display device including a data signal line drive circuit,

the data signal line drive circuit comprising:

a reference voltage selection circuit; and

an intermediate potential generation circuit,

wherein:

when relatively a few halftones are displayed, the reference voltage selection circuit operates, but the intermediate potential generation circuit does not operate; and

when relatively many halftones are displayed, both the reference voltage selection circuit and the intermediate potential generation circuit operate.

85. A drive circuit, comprising:

a scan circuit including n stages, where n is an integral greater than 1;

a first control switching means for controlling an input of a start signal to a first stage of the scan circuit;

a second control switching means provided between m th and $(m+1)$ th stages of the scan circuit, where m is a positive integral not exceeding n ; and

a third control switching means for controlling an input of a start signal to the $(m+1)$ th stage.

wherein:

the first control signal controls the first control switching means and the second control switching means; and

the second control signal controls the third control switching means.

86. An image display device including a drive circuit, the drive circuit comprising:

a scan circuit including n stages, where n is an integral greater than 1;

a first control switching means for controlling an input of a start signal to a first stage of the scan circuit;

a second control switching means provided between mth and (m+1)th stages of the scan circuit, where m is a positive integral not exceeding n; and

a third control switching means for controlling an input of a start signal to the (m+1)th stage.

wherein:

the first control signal controls the first control switching means and the second control switching means;

and

the second control signal controls the third control switching means.

87. An electronic apparatus including an image display device as an output device,

the image display device comprising:

a pixel array constituted by a plurality of pixels for displaying an image;

a data signal line drive circuit for supplying a video signal to the pixel array;

a scan signal line drive circuit for controlling writing of the video signal to the plurality of pixels;

a timing circuit for supplying a timing signal to the data signal line drive circuit and the scan signal line drive circuit; and

a video signal processing circuit for supplying the

video signal to the data signal line drive circuit,

wherein:

a part or entirety of either or both of the data signal line drive circuit and the scan signal line drive circuit is provided in plurality so as to realize mutually different display configurations.

88. The electronic apparatus as defined in claim 87,

wherein:

the electronic apparatus switches between display modes or display formats according to whether the electronic apparatus is driven by an external power source or by an internal battery.

89. The electronic apparatus as defined in claim 87,

wherein:

the electronic apparatus switches between display modes or display formats according to whether the electronic apparatus is standing by or is operating.

90. The electronic apparatus as defined in claim 87,

wherein:

the electronic apparatus switches between display modes or display formats according to ambient brightness when used.

91. An image display device, comprising:

a plurality of pixels arranged in a matrix form;

a plurality of data signal lines arranged to match with columns of the plurality of pixels and a plurality of scan signal lines arranged to match with rows of the plurality of pixels;

a display section in which the plurality of pixels are fed with data for an image display from the plurality of data signal lines in synchronism with a scan signal supplied from the plurality of scan signal lines;

a plurality of data signal line drive circuits, connected to the same data signal lines, for outputting a video signal to the plurality of data signal lines in synchronism with a predetermined timing signal; and

a scan signal line drive circuit for outputting the scan signal to the plurality of scan signal lines in synchronism with a predetermined timing signal,

wherein:

at least one of the plurality of data signal line drive circuits is a binary data signal line drive circuit including:

a shift register section operating at a predetermined timing;

a data holding section for sampling and holding a separately inputted binary data signal according to an

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output of the shift register section;

a data switching section for switching binary data potentials, i.e., a for-turn-on potential and a for-non-turn-on potential, according to the binary data signal being held; and

an output control section, provided between an output of the data switching section and the plurality of data signal lines, for controlling an output of the data switching section based on an externally inputted transfer instruction signal.

92. The image display device as defined in claim 91, wherein:

in at least one of the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, outputs to the plurality of data signal lines are coupled to the plurality of data signal lines.

93. The image display device as defined in claim 91, wherein:

the plurality of data signal line drive circuits each provide an output to the plurality of data signal lines at a different timing from the others.

94. The image display device as defined in claim 91, wherein:

the transfer instruction signal is turned active in a horizontal blanking period; and

either the for-turn-on potential or the for-non-turn-on potential is supplied simultaneously.

95. The image display device as defined in claim 91, wherein:

one or more of the plurality of data signal line drive circuits to which display data is not being supplied stop being driven.

96. The image display device as defined in claim 91, wherein:

at least one of the plurality of data signal line drive circuits includes a level shifter in a timing signal input section of the shift register section and in a binary data signal input section of the data holding section; and

the data holding section samples and subsequently holds the binary data signal according to an output of the shift register section based on a timing signal voltage-boosted by the level shifters.

97. The image display device as defined in claim 96, wherein:

the level shifters operate only when an output signal of the shift register section is active.

98. The image display device as defined in claim 96, wherein:

the level shifters are of a current drive type.

99. The image display device as defined in claim 96, wherein:

the level shifters include an input switching element for switching ON and OFF of operation; and

the level shifters stop operating as the input switching element receives a signal having a sufficient level to cause the input switching element to cut off.

100. The image display device as defined in claim 96, wherein:

the level shifters stop operating as power supply thereto is stopped.

101. The image display device as defined in claim 96, wherein:

the level shifters include:

a transistor receiving the binary data signal; and
an input control section for isolating a gate

capacitance of the transistor from a transmission line of the binary data signal.

102. The image display device as defined in claim 98, wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are made of polycrystalline silicon thin film transistors.

103. The image display device as defined in claim 99, wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are made of polycrystalline silicon thin film transistors.

104. The image display device as defined in claim 100, wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are made of polycrystalline silicon thin film transistors.

105. The image display device as defined in claim 101,

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wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are }

106. The image display device as defined in claim 98,

wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are manufactured at a process temperature equal to or below 600 °C.

107. The image display device as defined in claim 99,

wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are manufactured at a process temperature equal to or below 600 °C.

108. The image display device as defined in claim 100,

wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive circuits, and pixels are manufactured at a process temperature equal to or below 600 °C.

109. The image display device as defined in claim 101,
wherein:

switching elements constituting the plurality of
data signal line drive circuits, scan signal line drive
circuits, and pixels are manufactured at a process
temperature equal to or below 600 °C.

110. The image display device as defined in claim 91,
further comprising:

a binary data potential stabilizer section for
restricting variations in potential of the binary data
potential when the transfer instruction signal is
inputted to the binary data signal line drive circuit.

111. The image display device as defined in claim 110,
wherein:

the binary data potential stabilizer section
includes:

an electric charge holding section for receiving and
holding electric charges from a binary data potential
supply line supplying the binary data potential to the
binary data signal line drive circuit; and

a current control section for determining, according
to a resistance value, a quantity of electric charges
which is held by the electric charge holding section.

the binary data potential stabilizer section
includes:

a frequency control section for determining a quantity of electric charges which is inputted to and held by the electric charge holding section while reversing polarities for every horizontal scan period, by having a cut off frequency greater than a frequency of one horizontal scan period of a screen display.

the electric charge holding section has a capacitance to hold electric charges that is greater than at least a total capacitance of the plurality of data signal lines.

the current control section and the electric charge

holding section each exhibit a time constant that has such a value that stabilizes the binary data potential at a sufficient value within a period during which a display is produced by the display section based on a video signal supplied from the plurality of data signal line drive circuits other than the binary data signal line drive circuit.

115. The image display device as defined in claim 91,
wherein:

in a horizontal blanking period and when the transfer instruction signal is turned off, the binary data signal line drive circuit precharges the plurality of data signal lines to a potential having an intermediate value between a potential of the plurality of data signal lines representing data in a horizontal effective period and a potential of the plurality of data signal lines representing data in a subsequent horizontal effective period in the plurality of data signal line drive circuits other than the binary data signal line drive circuit.

116. The image display device as defined in claim 115,
wherein:

the binary data signal line drive circuit supplies

~~the precharge potential is set to a value equal to the reference potential.~~

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